

Understanding Trials

For each of the questions below, write a sentence or two that explains your thinking on the topic in light of the ideas we explored in Job.

1. Have you heard it said before that “good things happen to good people”? How does this statement compare to what you have just read about Job’s trials?
2. It is certainly true that sin has consequences, but is it biblically accurate to say that every trial you face is the result of sin in your life? Why or why not?
3. Identify a time in your life when your sin caused you to suffer consequences. Read Hebrews 12:5–11. How does this passage help you understand God’s role and purpose in that situation?
4. Considering the following attributes of God, describe how each of these can lead you to look to God in times of suffering:
 - Wise –
 - Loving –
 - Omniscient –
 - Sovereign –
5. In the middle of Job’s lament he says:

For I know that my Redeemer lives,
and at the last he will stand upon the earth.
And after my skin has been thus destroyed,
yet in my flesh I shall see God,
whom I shall see for myself,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.
My heart faints within me!
Job 19:25–27

How can trials in your life point you to the hope that you have in Christ and a future in heaven?